Toxic Dangers

To the Editor:

As a mom of a young child, I’m very concerned about the use of toxic chemicals in children’s products. Most people think that if they can buy a product in a store it has undergone safety testing, but that simply isn’t true. There are almost 80,000 unregulated chemicals in commerce today and as frightening as it is, many of these chemicals are in products we let our kids play with, use on their skin and even bathe in.

Equally as scary is the fact that many toxic chemicals have the ability to cross the placenta. That means that while we are doing everything we can during pregnancy to eat right and take care of our health, unbeknownst to us we may be exposing our developing child to chemicals that can impact his/her growth over the long-term. In fact, a study done by a national organization called Beyond Pesticides cites exposure to hormone disrupting toxic chemicals as a leading cause for our national epidemic of girls experiencing early puberty.

We are fortunate to live in CT where we’ve already taken steps to remove BPA from some products (like baby bottles) but BPA is just one of the offending chemicals of concern. It’s time for the legislature to take a more comprehensive approach to this problem by passing H.B. 6526, AAC Toxics Disclosure and Innovation for Healthy Children. The bottom line is this: parents don’t want to expose our children to chemicals that can harm their development.

Our children are Connecticut’s future. They should be able to grow up in an environment that is healthy and safe and parents should be able to confidently purchase products without fear of causing their children harm.

Michelle Noehren